

[DOWNHOLE TELEMETRY SYSTEM AND METHOD]

Abstract

A cabled communication link for a drill string includes spaced apart adapter subs within the drill string and a cable connecting the adapter subs for communication of a signal therebetween. The cabled communication link may be drill pipe joints are interconnected within the drill string between adapter subs to form a piped communication link, whereby the cabled communication link establishes a pathway to the piped communication link for transmitting a signal through the drill string. The cabled communication link may also be in a non-wired section of the drill string is disposed between adapter subs, whereby the cabled communication link establishes a pathway for transmitting a signal through the non-wired section of the drill string. Inductive couplings are preferably used for communication across the adapter subs and wired drill pipe joints. Another aspect of the cabled communication employs wireless transceivers at or near the surface of the wellbore.